

VZCZCXYZ0009
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAK #5490 2630928
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 200928Z SEP 06
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8842
INFO RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0228
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 1257
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 5451
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 4176
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 5302
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/19/2016
TAGS: [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [KTFN](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: TURKEY WANTS TO STEP UP PKK IN EUROPE WORK

REF: ANKARA 5124 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Ambassador Ross Wilson. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (C) Summary. The Turkish MFA is interested in continued cooperation against PKK logistical and support networks, and suggests that the issue could be raised with the Europeans by the new U.S. and Turkish Special Envoys for Countering the PKK. Another round of U.S.-Turkey interagency meetings could also be useful to share information and strategize about how more effectively to convince European governments to take action. End Summary.

12. (C) At an introductory meeting with the incoming DOJ Regional Legal Advisor based at Embassy Ankara, MFA Security DG Hayati Guven told us September 18 that Turkey values the work with the United States to convince European governments to crackdown on PKK activities in Europe. But, he said, success is uneven and partial so far. Guven agreed that Germany had made some significant arrests, but noted, by way of example, the recent release of a senior PKK operative in the Netherlands and similar releases in Belgium. He was also dissatisfied with the level of law enforcement cooperation with France.

13. (C) Guven confirmed press reports that the GOT continues to provide the Danish prosecutor investigating Roj-TV with materials that could be used to strengthen the case that the station glorifies and encourages terrorism among Turkey's Kurdish citizens. He said he understood that the prosecutor wants to proceed with a prosecution, but wants to ensure that he has an airtight case. Thus, Turkey continues to provide tapes of the most incendiary broadcast materials.

IDEAS FOR ENHANCING COOPERATION

14. (C) Guven wants to find ways to keep the pressure on the Europeans. While he understood that General Ralston, as the U.S. Special Envoy for Countering PKK Terrorism, would prioritize action in northern Iraq, Guven thought it could also be useful for Ralston to raise action against the PKK with European contacts. He expected that Ralston's Turkish

counterpart, General Baser, would include PKK activities in Europe in his mandate. Guven said he would also welcome another visit to Ankara of the U.S. interagency team that last came to Turkey in December 2005. He said this would be a useful opportunity to share information and strategize. Turkey has, Guven said, new information, and could even -- he thought -- be ready to share copies of the files presented in support of GOT extradition requests with U.S. legal experts.

15. (C) Comment: As our reporting has repeatedly stressed, we share Guven's belief that the "PKK in Europe" effort holds further unrealized potential, and that it has made a positive contribution to bilateral relations. Post would support another interagency visit. It is even possible (we are not as confident as Guven) that the Justice Ministry could be convinced, with sufficient lead time, to share its sensitive case files. It could also be useful for U.S. law enforcement officials assigned to embassies in Europe to attend such a meeting in order to share their insights with the Turks.

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WILSON